

ture sites, would suggest that the species is not confined to the West but indeed may occur over a much wider range.

It is hoped that further sampling in 1986 will reveal a sizeable breeding population of *L. rufoscutellatus* on this pond and that observation of this population will further our knowledge of the status of this species in Ireland — A. M. MURRAY, Department of Zoology, University College, Cork, Rep. of Ireland.

PHYLLONORYCTER DISTENTELLA (ZELLER, 1846) UNIVOLTINE IN BRITAIN. — On the 11th September, 1985 Mr. E. C. Pelham-Clinton, Dr. J. R. Langmaid and I collected mines of this species in Blean Woods, Kent and our observations show it to be univoltine. By that date the mines were fully formed and quite plentiful, but there were no examples from which moths of a first generation had emerged, as with the other oak-feeding *Phyllonorycter* which were then only just starting to make their second-generation mines. The *P. distentella* were kept under observation for the next few weeks, but there was no autumn emergence. Then, after exposing them for three months to the weather, JRL and I brought our mines indoors at the beginning of January, together with those of a few bivoltine species collected elsewhere. Moths from the latter began to emerge after two or three weeks but it was early March before the first *P. distentella* appeared, to be followed by a succession of others throughout the month. Univoltine species such as *P. roboris* (Zeller) and *P. cavella* (Zeller) show similar delay if an attempt is made to force them. According to Dr. M. R. Harper (pers. comm.), *P. distentella* likewise has only a single generation in Herefordshire.

*P. distentella* was added to the British list in 1886 by Wood (*Entomologist's mon. Mag.* 22: 262), who expresses no opinion on the number of generations. Meyrick in his *Handbook of British Lepidoptera* (1895) listed it as bivoltine, perhaps on the analogy of most other members of the genus. This error was followed in all subsequent British publications, including MBGBI, Vol. 2.

The adults appear in June and the larvae feed in July and August, becoming full-fed at the end of the latter month or in early September. It is not yet known whether pupation takes place in the autumn, or if the larva overwinters and changes in early spring, as is the behaviour of a small minority of *Phyllonorycter* species. A surprising absence of parasites from the Blean material may have been due to chance, but it is possible that *P. distentella* acquires some measure of immunity by its timing, the generations of the parasites being co-ordinated with the bivoltine regime of the commoner oak-feeding *Phyllonorycter*.

I take this opportunity to make a second factual correction to the section on *Phyllonorycter* in MBGBI, Vol. 2. On p.339 the mine of *P. strigulatella* (Zeller) is stated to occur on the upperside instead

of the underside of the leaf. This was a misprint which escaped the notice of proof-readers and its correction does not reflect a revision of data. The position of the mine is given correctly on p.248. A. M. EMMET, Labrey Cottage, Victoria Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3AF.

ETHMIA BIPUNCTELLA F. & E. SEXPUNCTELLA HUBN. IN SUSSEX. — My friend Mr. J. M. Chalmers-Hunt (*antea*: 164 *ad fin.*) writes, apropos of a recent Sussex capture of *E. bipunctella*, that he knows of only one previous record for the county (Peacehaven, 1952). I was under the impression that this moth was fairly well known from the shingle-beach area of the East Sussex coast about Pevensey, as already reported by me in this Journal (1955, 67: 154) on information furnished by the late H. C. Huggins. I have an example bred from one of two larvae found at the latter place in 1953 (Allen, *l.c.*).

Of *E. sexpunctella* I bred three specimens in 1969 from larvae taken off *Echium vulgare* at Castle Water, Rye Harbour. I can say nothing as to the present status of this species in Sussex, but the locality is most probably well within its range as now known, which is, I believe, very similar to that of the last. — A. A. ALLEN.

ELACHISTA UNIFASCIELLA HAW. AND BRYOTROPHA POLITELLA STT. IN HAMPSHIRE — On 14th. April 1985 I visited the Leckford Estate nature reserve on the downland slope bordering the north-eastern edge of the private golf course (VC 12), accompanied by Dr. J. R. Langmaid and Mr. E. C. Pelham-Clinton, to look for downland *Elachista* mines, and in a blade of *Dactylis* found a large *Phyllonorycter*-like blister mine which ECP-C identified as that of *Elachista unifasciella* Haw., and later he found a similar mine. I revisited the area again on 18th. April, and also on 21st. April in company with Mr. M. J. Sterling. In all 4 *E. unifasciella* emerged from mines that I kept. This species is new to Hampshire and its known distribution elsewhere in this country is very limited. Other *Elachista* scarce in Hampshire bred were *E. gleichenella* Fabr. from *Carex flacca* (JRL) and *E. luticomella* Zell. from *Dactylis* (MJS).

On 7th. July on the opposite slope Mr. P. H. Sterling netted a female *Bryotropha* which we could not immediately identify. On dissection, the genitalia appeared to agree with illustrations of *Bryotropha politella* Stt., and our thanks are due to Dr. K. Sattler who subsequently checked and confirmed this from material at the BM(NH). This too is a new record for Hampshire and I have been unable to find any other specific record for the southern counties, although in his *Revised Handbook of British Lepidoptera* (1927), Meyrick does mention Wiltshire, whose nearest point is less than 12 miles distant. COL. D. H. STERLING, "Tangmere", 2 Hampton Lane, Winchester, Hants. S022 5LF.